

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Managers of Operations

404982

DATE: July , 1954

FROM : K. D. Nichols, General Manager

K. D. Nichols

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTROL OF BERYLLIUM HAZARDS

SYMBOL: BMM:REA

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Enclosed are the tentative recommendations for the control of beryllium hazards. These recommendations supersede all previous memoranda on this subject and are submitted for your information and guidance. These recommendations represent no change from those which were effective until June 30, 1954, and unless sooner revised, will be effective until June 30, 1955.

Enclosure:

"Recommendations for Control of Beryllium Hazards"

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONTROL OF BERYLLIUM HAZARDS*

June 15, 1954

1. The in-plant atmospheric concentration of beryllium at beryllium operations should not exceed 2 micrograms per cubic meter as an average concentration throughout an 8-hour day.
2. Even though the daily average might be within the limits of Recommendation 1, no personnel should be exposed to a concentration greater than 25 micrograms per cubic meter for any period of time, however short.
3. In the neighborhood of an AEC plant handling beryllium compounds, the average monthly concentration at the breathing zone level should not exceed 0.01 microgram per cubic meter.
4. There should be an adequate medical program, supervised by a physician who is familiar with beryllium poisoning, to cover all workers exposed to beryllium and its compounds.
5. If there is any evidence that an individual has chronic beryllium poisoning, such an individual should be excluded from any further exposure to beryllium compounds.
6. Beryllium operations should be carried on in as few places as possible.
7. Beryllium and beryllium compounds should not be used by un-instructed or unsupervised groups in any operation that will produce atmospheric contamination (dusts, fumes, mists, etc.).

*These recommendations, unless sooner revised, will be effective until June 30, 1955.